

60/175,952 filed January 13, 2000 and to U.S. Provisional Patent Applications Serial No. 60/131,312 filed April 27, 1999.

#### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Ice cream dispensing machines are known, in which the ice cream or other product is placed in a cylinder, and a plunger moves along the cylinder, pushing the product out a spout. A known machine is shown in U.S. Patent No. 5,421,484 "Beach", which is hereby incorporated by reference. These machines are operated by a person pulling a lever. While the lever is being pulled, it causes a valve to open to provide air pressure, which causes the plunger to move in the cylinder, dispensing the ice cream. Pulling the lever also opens a dispensing valve, so the product which is being pushed by the plunger can leave the machine through the dispensing valve. Usually, the machine has more than one cylinder, each cylinder having its own control lever, and each cylinder being independently operated. --

#### REMARKS

A marked-up version of the amendments to the specification is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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**MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE AMENDMENTS  
TO THE SPECIFICATION**

On page 1 at lines 2-17, the present description was deleted and inserted therefor was:

**-- RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a U.S. national filing under 35 U.S.C. 371 and claims the benefit of PCT International Patent Application Serial No. PCT/US00/11743 filed April 26, 2000, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/175,952 filed January 13, 2000 and to U.S. Provisional Patent Applications Serial No. 60/131,312 filed April 27, 1999.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

[This application claims priority from U.S. Provisional Applications S.N. 60/131,312, filed April 27, 199 and S.N. 60/175,952, filed January 13, 2000.] Ice cream dispensing machines are known, in which the ice cream or other product is placed in a cylinder, and a plunger moves along the cylinder, pushing the product out a spout. A known machine is shown in U.S. Patent No. 5,421,484 "Beach", which is hereby incorporated by reference. These machines are operated by a person pulling a lever. While the lever is being pulled, it causes a valve to open to provide air pressure, which causes the plunger to move in the cylinder, dispensing the ice cream. Pulling the lever also opens a dispensing valve, so the product which is being pushed by the plunger can leave the machine through the dispensing valve. Usually, the machine has more than one cylinder, each cylinder having its own control lever, and each cylinder being independently operated. --